Message Text

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CONFIDENTIAL USUN 4388

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, UNGA, CY

SUBJECT: FONMIN CHRISTOPHIDES AND POLITICIANS MEET WITH

AMBASSADORS YOUNG AND LEONARD

- 1. SUMMARY. FONMIN CHRISTOPHIDES AND CYPRUS POLITICIANS ASKED AMB YOUNG TO "GO ALONG WITH"DRAFT RESOLUTION ON CYPRUS BEFORE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. IF NO PROGRESS IS MADE TOWARD SETTLEMENT OF CYPRUS PROBLEM, GOC WOULD HAVE TO TURN TO SECURITY COUNCIL. CYPRUS POLITICIANS REVIEWED CURRENT STATUS OF SITUATION ON THE ISLAND. END SUMMARY.
- 2. FONMIN CHRISTOPHIDES AT HIS REQUEST CALLED ON AMBS YOUNG AND LEONARD ON NOV 4. THE FONMIN WAS ACCOMPANIED BY CLERIDES, PAPADOPOULOS, LYSSARIDES, FANTIS, GHALANOS AND FROM THE CYPRUS MISSION, ROESIDES, JACOVIDES, AND STEPHANIDES. CHRISTOPHIDES OPENED THE CONVERSATION BY NOTING THAT THE TEXT OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTION (USUN 4368) IS SATISFACOTRY TO HIM, ALTHOUGH HE UNDERSTOOD THE TURKISH SIDE OBJECTED TO IT. THE FONMIN ASKED THAT THE US CONSDIER THE TEXT WITH A VIEW TOWARD "GOING ALONG WITH IT." WE REPLIED BY NOTING CONFIDENTIAL

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REASONS FOR US ABSTENTION ON CYPRUS QUESTION IN 1976 AND 1975, BUT POINTING OUT THAT WE WOULD NOT EXPECT INSTRUCTIONS UNTIL EARLY NEXT WEEK. AT THIS POINT, PAPADOPOULOS SPOKE INDICATING THAT NEUTRALITY ON THE CYPRUS ISSUE WAS ALMOST IMMORAL; WE RESPONDED THAT US ABSTENTION IN THE PAST WAS NOT THAT OF INDIFFERNCE OR IMMORALITY BUT MOTIVATED BY AN OVERRIDING DESIRE TO FURTHER THE

CYPRUS TALKS BETWEENTHE TWO SIDES.

3. CHRISTOPHIDES THEN GAVE THE FLOOR TO EACH POLITICIAN WHO SPOKE BRIEFLY ON UNGA EARLIER ACTIONS ON THE CYPRUS QUESTION, THE STATUS OF THE INTERCOMMUNAL NEGOTIATIONS, AND THE UTILITY OF CONTINUING TO PRESSURE TURKEY THROUGH THE "ARMS EMBARGO". GALANOS SAID TURKEY INTERPRETS US ABSTENTION AS A VOTE AGAINST THE RESOLUTION; RESSIDES NOTED THAT THE ACTIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS HAVE AN IMPACT ON THE TALKS; LYSSARIDES URGED THAT THE ARMS EMBARGO NOT BE LIFTED BEFORE THERE IS A SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM; FANTIS SUGGESTED AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE SITUATION; AND CLERIDES GAVE STATESMANLIKE REVIEW OF HIS THREE YEARS AS INTERLOCUTOR AND OBSERVED THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL COULD SERVE TO EXERCISE A TYPE OF PRESSURE ON THE TURKISH SIDE.

4. CONVERSATION ENDED AMICABLY WITH FONMIN CHRISTOPHIDES AND OTHERS OBVIOUSLY PLEASED WITH CHANCE TO MEET INFORMALLY WITH AMB YOUNG AND TO PRESENT THEIR VIEWPOINTS ON UPCOMING DEBATE. YOUNG

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